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Weather feet seemed rooted to the spot. She has lost all control over her-

IN THE VALLEY.

To-day, when the sun was lighting my house of the pine-clad hill.

The breast of a bird was ruffled as it perched on my window sill,

And a leaf was chased by the kitten on the breeze-swept garden walk,

And the dainty head

Of a dahlia red

Was stirred on its slender stalk.

Oh, happy the bird at the rose-tree, unheeding the threatening storm!

And happy the blithe leaf-chaser, rejoicing in sunshine warm!

They take no thought for the morrow—they know no cares to-day;

And the thousand things

That the future brings

Are a blank to such as they.

But I, by the household ingle, can interpret the looming clouds,

For the wind "soc-hoos" through; the keyhole, and a shadow the house enshrouds;

And I know I must quit my mountain, and go down to the vale below,

For my house is chill On the windy hill,

When the autumn tempests blow.

My mind is for ever drawing an instructive parallel

'Twixt temporal things that perish and eternal things that dwell—

When billows and waves surround me, and waters my soul o'erflow,

I descend in hope

From the mountain top

To the sheltering vale below.

I go down to the valley of silence, where the worldly are never met;
I know there is "balm and healing" there for eyes that with tears are wet;
And I find, in its sweet seclusion, gentle solace for all my care,
For that valley pure,
With its shelter sure,
Is the beautiful vale of prayer.
—Nannie Power-O'Donoghue, in Chamber's Journal.



GANGLATED BY EMILY S. HOWARD [Copyright, 1893, by N a beautiful summer day not long ago, two handsome women sat on the

charming hunting-castles with which the mountains of Styria abound.

"Bear in mind, Dora, that Prince

Benatschew is a very dangerous man."
Countess Dorothea blushed crimson.
"Why do you call him dangerous?"
"Is not your husband a little jealous

of his pretty wife?"

"Ah, if he only were! But he devotes night and day to the study of political and economic subjects, and has no time for me."

"Do you mean to say that he neglects

you?"

"Not exactly; but he has so many things to take up his thoughts that he would not have time to be jealous. Infidelity on my part would arouse his anger, but it would not try his heart. He is a cold and austere man, Emmyagreat and noble man, if you will—but like a block of ice."

"While Prince Benatschaw is a non-

"While Prince Benatschew is a ver-itable volcano."

Dora does not reply, for the subject of their conversation appears on the terrace where the two ladies are chat-

ting.
"I hope that I am not disturbing an "Hope that I am not disturbing an exchange of confidences, ladles?"
"We were speaking of you, prince," answered Emmy. "It was said that you are a man of a volcanic disposition."
"You must be flattering me."
Countess Dorothea has indignantly

"You must be flattering me."

Countess Dorothea has indignantly risen. "I have said nothing of the sort, for I know nothing of Prince Benatschew's character. Pray, let us return to the drawing-room; I hear Mr. Greenlow play the prelude to his—"

"I entreat you, countess, stay. It is the 'Moonlight Serenade,' and I am sure we can enjoy it to better advan-

sure we can enjoy it to better advan-tage here, with the real moon shining down upon us. What a lovely summer night! Look down yonder, countess, and watch the effect here, from where I am standing! Do you see the moon reflected in the lake, and the fountain transformed into a sparkling pillar of

Reluctantly Countess Dorothea follows the prince. This man exerts



COUNTESS DOROTHEA HAS INDIGNANTLY

strange power over her. Emmy is right; he is a dangerous man.

"Where are you, Emmy?" cries she, as she turns to where her friend had been sitting. "Come and watch the moon-light."

But Emmy has disappeared through the door which leads from the verands into the brilliantly lighted drawing room, and the two are left alone. A timid yet pleasurable feeling of awe takes possession of Dorothea's soul.

During the past days she has conscientiously avoided the tempter. Tonight she remains spellbound, held cap-tive by a power which is greater than her resistance. Will he again speak of love to her?

"It is indeed a delightful scene," she says, with quavering voice. "A delightful scene," she repeats, in confusion; "but let us go in."

Yet her feet seemed rooted to the

self. The man of the world interpret these symptoms correctly, and begin to do what she has feared—or hoped she does not know which—whisper :

passionate avowal of love into her ear

To him her silence means a yielding
to his entreaties. "You have made me
supremely happy," he murmurs softly,
and steps aside to meet several persons
who are at this moment approaching
from the drawing-room. Among them
is Count Tolstegg, Dorothea's husband.

Early in the morning of the follow-

Early in the morning of the following day, Count Tolstegg informs his wife that he is called to the city on important business and must leave by the last train that evening.

"And the tableau in which you are expected to take part?"

"As the train does not leave until nine, I will have ample time to figure in that, since I was foolish enough to consent to such childish play. Our hostess insists that no one but myself can represent the character for which she has chosen me, and it would be unkind to spoil her pleasure."

"Then we will leave before the ball commences?"

commences?"

"We? There is no reason why you should not remain. I will come for you in a few days."
"Command me to go with you, Otho—I beg of you!"

But Count Tolstegg shrugs his shoul-ders with a smile, and makes no reply.

The guests are assembled in the pretty little amateur theater, and the players have gathered behind the scenes on the stage. In the first row sits Dorothea, and beside her Benatschew. He has been her escort during dinner, and has filled unnoticed her glass with champagne as often as possible. Dora's cheeks are flushed, and a feverish light

cheeks are flushed, and a feverish light burns in her black eyes. Her excite-ment, however, is not caused by the wine, but by the inward struggle of the past few days.

"I will not!" cries conscience. "I will—I must!" answers another voice in her breast, as if under the ban of some strange hypnotic power. Her husband's departure! Has everything conspired in Benatschew's favor? Oh. conspired in Benatschew's favor? Oh, if Tolstegy had but spoken one word—one word of comfort and kindness—when she entreated him to take her back with him. She would have gathered strength from it to resist the passionate recurring that ered strength from it to resist the passionate yearning that drives her into the tempter's arms. There is but one way out of the difficulty. She must confess to her husband the danger with which she is beset. Several times during that day she has been on the eve of doing this, but when she lifted her eyes to her husband's cold, indifferent countenance, she relapsed into silence. And now, now he is going from here-And now, now he is going from her— to leave her unguarded to the other's wiles. "I am lost! I am lost!" moans the unfortunate woman.

Three of the tableaux, copied from famous works of art, have already been presented. The next on the programme is the one in which Count Tolstegg is to figure. A side-door which leads to



"I AM SUPPOSED TO HAVE STABBED YOUR LOVER."

the stage is suddenly thrown open, and some one enters and advances toward Countess Dorothea, beckoning her to follow. One of the performers has been taken ill, and Dora is the only one who can successfully take her place. Would she consent? The tableau is already arranged; there is no time to be lost.

Dorothea gives her consent. dress is soon arranged to suit the character which she is to represent. They endeavor to show her the photograph of the painting from which the tableau is copied in which she is to figure, but in the general confusion it has been mis-laid. Count Tolstegg is bidden to instruct his young wife. She is ready.

The count hurries to her side. A cry The count hurries to her side. A cry of delight and admiration escapes Dorothea's lips. She has never known him to look more handsome. He snatches her hand and draws her on the stage with him. The others are in their places. Tolstong leads her to the their places. Tolstegg leads her to the center of the stage and, bidding her to kneel down before him, he says, with muffled voice: "I am supposed to have stabbed your lover; you are to gaze with horror upon his bleeding form. Press one hand to your temple—so elenching the other, as I grasp your wrist. You are trembling, dear. Have I hurt you? Forgive me; but for a moment the part which I am playing seemed so natural, as if I were in reallty the avenger of my honor."

"Otho-speak-would you have done as he did?" asks Dorothea under her breath.

"Oh! my life, my all—I don't know whom I would have killed in such a case. Perhaps myself!" whispers Count Tolstegg, with suppressed emotion, as his eyes rest lovingly upon the prostrate form of his young wife. "Otho!"

"Attention!" cries the stage manager. The signal is given. The curtain rises.

An hour later Count Tolstegg's carriage is on its way to the station. Leaning back in the cushions, with his arm around her waist, and her head resting on his breast, sits Dorothea. She has confessed to her husband. The proud, austere man draws her gently to him. "Then Master Angeli

has helped me to be the savior of my honor-"And of my happiness," tenderly whispers Dorothea.

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